THURMASTON

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1904.

LEICESTER:
EDWARD SHARDLOW, PRINTER AND LITHOGRAPHER, ST. MARTIN'S.

REPORT.

KIRBY MUXLOE,

LEICESTER,

21st January, 1905.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE THURMASTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the pleasure of presenting my Report on the Health and Sanitation of your District during 1904.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population :—

Census 1891	1,681
Census 1901	1,732
Estimated to middle of 1904	1,752

During the year 57 Births and 39 Deaths have been registered. In addition to the latter, one person belonging to Thurmaston died in the Barrow-on-Soar Union Workhouse. The "corrected" number of deaths is therefore 40. Twelve of these deaths occurred in infants under one year of age, and thirteen were in persons of 65 years and upwards.

The Birth Rate is above the mean for the preceding ten years, and is the highest recorded since 1898. The gross Death Rate, 22.3, is considerably above the average for your District, the increased mortality being most evident in children under five years of age.

The Birth Rate is	32.5	per 1000	of the	population.
The Death Rate is	22.8	,,	,,	,,
The Zymotic Death Rate is ..	1.16	,,	,,	,,
The Infant Mortality Rate is	210	,,	Births.	

I record two Zymotic deaths, both being from Diarrhœa in children.

There were four deaths from Tuberculosis, one being from Phthisis. I am of opinion that this disease should be made voluntarily notifiable in your District, the fee for certificates of notification being the same as is paid in respect of the compulsorily notifiable diseases. The cost would be insignificant, say 10s. a year at the outside, and if notification were followed by the issuing of instructions to patients and members of their households, by cleansing and rectification of insanitation on infected premises and by periodical disinfection, much benefit would accrue. As an economic investment for the benefit of the Public Health I commend the notification of Consumption to your favourable consideration.

Two cases of Bronchitis and six of Diseases of the Heart proved fatal. Cancer caused one death. There were two fatal accidents, and one death was suicidal.

Notification of Infectious Disease.

I have pleasure in reporting that during the year I did not receive a single notification of infectious disease. The Appendix, Table III., is accordingly excluded from this Report.

Whooping Cough was somewhat prevalent in the early summer. It was, however, of a fairly mild type, and no fatal case is recorded. Two Small-pox Contacts were under observation, but in neither instance did the disease develop.

Disinfection.

Two houses were disinfected with formalin, an Equifex Sprayer being employed.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Regulations have been adopted, and steps are being taken to see that they are complied with.

Registration is desirable.

General Sanitation of the District.

Provision has been made for the flushing of sewers in various parts of the village, and additional ventilation shafts have been provided. The sewers and drains in three streets have been improved, and insanitation in several houses has also been rectified. Scavenging is carried out by the Sanitary Authority, pails and dust-bins being emptied weekly.

Slaughter Houses.

It is my duty to direct attention to your obligation as an Urban Sanitary Authority requiring the Registration or Licensing of all Slaughter Houses within your District. I would ask you to insist on the licensing of Slaughter Houses which have not been in continuous use as such since 1875, and to refuse any license applied for in which the premises do not at least appromixately comply with the rules as to site and structure stated in the relevant Memorandum of the Local Government Board. It is further your duty to make Bye-Laws, and I would seriously ask you not only to adopt but to insist on the effective administration of the Model Bye-Laws.

I am impelled to urge this matter by reason of the fact that there is established in your District an insanitary, unpaved, undrained, secluded shed which is used as a Slaughter House for unhealthy and debilitated cattle, the carcases being sometimes sold for human food, and sometimes used for pigs. Towards the close of November I succeeded, in conjunction with the County Police, in intercepting several yew-poisoned quartered carcases in the shed to which I refer. There were, however, technical difficulties in proving that the meat was in course of preparation for sale as human food; notwithstanding the fact that some of the yew-poisoned meat had been surrendered in Leicester, where it was actually exposed for

sale. Apart altogether from the grossly insanitary surroundings of this slaughter-shed, it is shameful that facilities should be afforded for killing or dressing meat under such conditions. The persons engaged in this traffic are well known to the police, who, in cases of the kind, can do but little without the co-operation of a District Council and a Health Officer.

It is therefore incumbent on you as a Sanitary Authority to avail yourself of every legal power at your disposal in order to render it impossible for a business such as I have described to be located in your District.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

The provisions of this Act with regard to inspection, supervision and sanitation of Factories and Workshops have received attention. Particulars are submitted in the subjoined Report of the Sanitary Inspector and in the schedule which is attached in accordance with the instructions of the Home Office. Although, in so small a District, there is but little calling for comment, the utility of such a schedule is obvious, inasmuch as it secures uniformity throughout the country in the presentation of such particulars as lend themselves to statistical treatment.

I append the Synoptic Tables Nos. I. and IV. required by the Local Government Board. Table II. is not applicable to your District, and Table III. is happily unnecessary owing to your having enjoyed immunity from the incidence of notifiable diseases.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. E. O'CONNOR, Capt.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Leicestershire, Rutland and Warwick
Combined Sanitary Districts.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Complaints	No. received	10
Premises, houses, etc. ..	No. inspected	50
	Nuisances abated	5
Pool, ditch, gutter, watercourse	No. inspected	2
	Nuisances abated	2
Animals improperly kept ..	No. inspected	20
	Nuisances abated	20
Privy, urinal, cesspool, ashpit	No. inspected	50
	Nuisances abated	8
Drain, drain-traps, etc. etc. ..	No. inspected	10
	Nuisances abated	10
Slaughter houses	No. of inspections	6
Dairymen, cowkeepers, purveyors of milk	No. in district	10
	No. of inspections of premises ..	20
Public Health Act, 1875 ..	No. of houses condemned ..	1
	No. closed	1
	No. cleansed and limewashed ..	2
Housing of Working Classes Act, Part II.	No. of houses condemned ..	2
	No. closed	1
Infectious diseases	Houses affected with	2
	Houses inspected	2
	No. of inspections	2
	Houses disinfected	2
	Disinfectant used ..	Formalin
Privy middens	No. converted to pails	1
Pail or earth closets	New provided	1
Ashpits	No. converted to ashbins ..	6
Ashbins	New provided	2
Water supply	Cisterns cleansed, repaired, and covered	3

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

Workshops	Total number on register (including bakehouses)	13
Bakehouses	No. on register	3
Home work	No. of outworkers	32
	No. of houses	32

D. HERBERT,

Sanitary Inspector.

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TABLE I.—Giving the Number of Births and Deaths in the Thurmaston Urban District during the Years 1894 to 1904.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Deaths under One Year of Age.		Deaths at all Ages.		Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond District.	Deaths at all Ages. Nett.	
		Number.	Rate per 1000 of estimated population	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate per 1000 of estimated population		Number.	Rate per 1000 of estimated population
1894	1,696	55	...	8	...	19	...	Not recorded.	...	...
1895	1,701	68	...	9	...	28	...		...	...
1896	1,706	52	...	9	...	35	...		...	...
1897	1,711	47	...	9	...	32	...		...	...
1898	1,716	56	...	9	...	24	...		...	...
1899	1,721	48	...	14	...	37	...		...	..
1900	1,726	51	...	11	...	24	..		...	...
1901	1,732	45	.	4	...	24	...		...	...
1902	1,738	49	28·1	7	...	29	...	1	30	17·2
1903	1,744	54	30·9	7	129	29	16·6	3	32	18·3
Averages for years 1894-1903	1,720	52	30·2	8	167	28	16·1	...	..	...
1904	1,752	57	32·5	12	210	39	22·3	1	40	22·8

Area of District in Acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 1,748

Total population at all ages ... . 1,732 } At Census of 1901.

Number of inhabited houses ... ... 397 } At Census of 1901.

Average number of persons per house ... . 4·4 } At Census of 1901.

Institutions receiving sick and infirm persons from the District—

The Union Workhouse, Rothley, and the Leicester Infirmary.

The Union Workhouse is not within the District.

TABLE IV.

Showing Causes of, and Ages at, Death in the Thurmaston Urban District during the Year 1904.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 65 years.	65 years and upwards.
Diarrhœa	2	1	1	...	...	...	...
Phthisis	1	...	...	...	...	1	.
Other Tubercular Diseases	3	1	1	1	..	...	...
Cancer	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Bronchitis	2	1	...	..	...	..	1
Premature Birth ..	5	5	...	..	...	...	...
Heart Diseases ...	6	...	...	...	...	4	2
Accidents	2	...	1	...	...	1	...
Suicides	1	...	..	...	...	1	...
All other causes ...	17	4	2	...	...	1	10
All causes ...	40	12	5	1	...	9	13